



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

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[www.nass.usda.gov/nh](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh)

Week ending July 26, 2015

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Released July 27, 2015

**Good week for field work:** New England averaged 4.5 days suitable for field work last week.

Overall, New England experienced cooler than average temperatures and much wetter conditions than last week, with hail also reported in some areas. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from seven degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.0 to 3.33 inches in the region. Hay production in most locations slowed due to the rainfall and hail. Field corn, including late-planted corn, was tasseling throughout the region. Harvest continued on vegetables such as greens, beans, peas, potatoes, and sweet corn among others in many places. Peaches were beginning to be harvested in some areas, with the harvest of blueberries and raspberries going strong. Producers continued monitoring for pests and spraying if necessary. Despite the weather, overall crop conditions appeared good with only sporadic areas having below average conditions for the week. Other field work this week included weeding, fertilizing, and irrigating crops. Tobacco growers should be aware of previous reports of blue mold found on broadleaf tobacco in MA and CT, as undetected blue mold may be present in other locations.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 26, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	3	7	64	26
SUBSOIL	2	6	66	26

## Crop Conditions as of July 26, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	5	78	17
BARLEY (ME)	0	0	0	25	75
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	2	13	72	13
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	3	3	17	59	18
CORN	0	12	42	40	6
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	10	70	15
DRY HAY	0	6	38	42	14
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	25	75
PASTURE AND RANGE	1	2	33	41	23
PEACHES	1	4	10	75	10
PEARS	0	0	16	84	0
POTATOES	0	0	3	28	69
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	8	32	44	16
SWEET CORN	0	5	16	61	18
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA)	0	0	10	86	4

## Crop Progress as of July 26, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	32
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	88
CRANBERRIES (MA): FRUIT SET	100
DRY HAY: 1st CUTTING	96
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	52
PEACHES: HARVESTED	8
POTATOES: BLOOMING	84
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	17

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oc/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oc/weather) and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

**July 26, 2015 New England Weekly Weather Summary**

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	86	53	69	-3	0.71	3	13.78	-0.36	47	1137	-6	2130
	Bangor_Intl_Air	85	50	67	-3	0.73	3	11.10	-1.77	54	1018	-60	1978
	Bethel	85	56	68	-2	0.57	4	13.93	-1.44	46	995	-44	1938
	Bridgton	83	53	66	-2	1.81	4	16.44	+1.25	43	994	+41	1955
	Caribou_Municip	76	52	62	-5	1.21	6	12.21	-0.26	58	858	+14	1759
	Dover-Foxcroft	85	53	66	-2	2.05	4	15.42	+0.99	59	937	+118	1849
	Durham	84	54	68	-2	1.07	5	12.23	-2.73	52	1021	-1	1992
	East_Surry	82	48	64	-5	1.09	3	13.02	-1.65	51	802	-165	1715
	Eustis	79	52	64	0	2.72	4	15.68	+1.94	49	711	+67	1534
	Frenchville	72	49	59	-7	1.47	5	11.90	-0.91	55	685	-85	1547
	Harmony	85	55	67	-2	1.10	6	13.61	-0.55	59	1019	+47	1957
	Houlton	78	52	63	-4	0.70	5	12.12	-0.52	52	852	-2	1739
	Livermore_Falls	84	51	67	+1	0.86	4	13.88	-1.76	49	979	+141	1913
	Machias	78	51	65	-1	1.07	4	13.73	-2.19	49	802	+72	1652
	Millinocket_Wtr	77	53	65	-4	2.84	5	16.09	+1.64	51	823	-150	1691
	Moosehead	82	53	65	0	1.51	5	12.84	-2.01	56	845	+130	1729
	Portland_ME	84	55	68	-3	0.73	3	14.84	+0.66	43	1214	+206	2241
	Rangeley_2NW	80	52	64	-2	1.89	4	16.88	+2.98	57	665	-53	1455
	Sanford	88	54	69	-3	0.92	3	13.66	-1.60	32	1194	-7	2175
	Topsfield_2	77	53	65	-4	1.06	5	15.61	+0.91	53	891	-12	1790
	Turner	86	56	68	-4	0.84	3	15.68	+0.86	47	1095	-150	2071
	Wesley_2W	86	47	68	-1	1.30	2	15.49	+1.95	40	1005	+105	1927
	West_Rockport	84	54	66	-3	0.54	4	12.98	-2.68	54	987	+69	1931
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	82	51	65	-2	1.67	2	15.59	+1.85	51	923	-6	1841
	Bradford_2	87	48	67	-3	0.86	2	12.23	-3.04	41	1060	-89	2010
	Colebrook	82	53	66	-1	3.33	5	23.29	+9.24	66	762	-90	1596
	Concord	92	53	71	0	0.06	3	10.19	-2.14	45	1429	+250	2452
	East_Milford	90	55	71	-2	0.19	2	13.03	-1.56	38	1352	+86	2375
	Epping	91	54	71	+1	0.22	4	11.78	-2.59	44	1293	+107	2298
	Errol_AP	81	51	65	0	1.73	3	18.02	+4.82	60	840	+93	1684
	Fitzwilliam	88	54	70	+3	0.54	4	14.10	-0.43	51	1301	+296	2312
	Greenville	88	52	68	+1	0.35	2	13.95	-0.58	34	1160	+155	2143
	Hancock	87	48	68	-3	0.35	3	17.86	+2.94	54	1162	+66	2128
	Jefferson	80	51	66	-2	1.75	4	21.07	+7.06	60	978	-7	1898
	Keene_AG	89	53	71	+1	0.03	3	12.14	-1.78	46	1244	+99	2232
	Lakeport_2	86	57	70	-2	0.78	2	12.99	-1.07	40	1236	+27	2231
	Lebanon	91	52	71	+3	0.48	4	11.03	-1.04	44	1352	+242	2356
	North_Conway	83	54	67	-3	1.38	4	14.65	-0.85	49	1020	-82	1968
	Tamworth_4	83	50	66	-2	1.75	4	15.75	-1.19	49	932	+49	1859
	Wolfeburro	82	59	69	-3	1.78	2	13.39	-0.67	46	1227	+18	2227
Vermont	Bennington_AP	88	48	69	+3	0.56	2	8.00	-8.92	43	1352	+411	2378
	Burlington_Intl	89	57	72	+2	1.07	6	18.52	+5.57	54	1489	+246	2520
	Corinth	82	49	64	-5	3.09	4	18.73	+6.69	54	891	-118	1778
	Island_Pond	81	52	66	+2	1.40	4	19.61	+5.20	64	890	+57	1758
	Johnson_2N	80	51	65	-2	0.82	6	18.75	+4.72	60	902	-42	1822
	Marlboro_Raws	88	53	70	+4	0.98	4	14.74	+1.38	46	1188	+287	2164
	Montpelier_AP	84	50	67	-2	1.62	6	19.41	+7.37	62	1071	+62	2001
	Newport_AG	84	53	67	-3	2.23	5	21.66	+7.64	56	990	-169	1904

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	86	52	68	+2	1.12	4	18.55	+2.81	51	1121	+167	2080
	Rutland_AG	88	52	68	-2	1.00	5	14.63	+0.61	56	1134	-63	2093
	Springfield_VT	89	51	70	+2	0.46	4	10.17	-5.41	45	1286	+234	2284
	South_Lincoln	83	48	64	-2	0.26	3	18.37	+1.78	49	910	+95	1795
	Sutton	80	52	65	-1	2.00	4	20.70	+6.29	71	899	+66	1786
	Walden	79	48	63	-4	3.10	6	21.12	+6.71	66	699	-134	1513
	Woodstock	87	51	69	-1	1.28	3	16.47	+2.57	46	1178	+116	2140
Massachusetts	Amherst	89	53	71	-2	0.05	1	13.99	-1.06	37	1419	+126	2455
	Barre_Falls_Dam	86	49	68	0	0.21	3	12.75	-2.27	45	1169	+174	2155
	Bedford_Hanscom	91	54	72	-1	0.02	2	10.14	-4.45	33	1461	+151	2510
	Beverly_Ag	90	57	71	-3	0.26	1	9.53	-3.61	35	1272	-87	2328
	Birch_Hill_Dam	87	51	70	+2	0.11	3	12.60	-2.21	42	1263	+253	2254
	Boston_Logan_In	92	62	75	0	0.01	1	10.42	-2.20	33	1543	+84	2609
	Chatham_AP	88	60	73	+5	0.00	0	7.66	-6.30	36	1182	+216	2200
	Chicopee_Westov	91	50	72	-1	0.15	2	14.60	-0.45	40	1549	+256	2595
	Edgartown	90	57	74	+3	0.06	1	6.94	-6.93	37	1337	+174	2409
	East_Brimfield_	87	54	71	+1	0.11	1	12.54	-2.15	40	1314	+150	2337
	Fitchburg	91	55	73	0	0.26	3	11.28	-4.10	39	1625	+289	2688
	Greenfield	89	53	71	-2	0.05	2	16.66	+1.61	50	1315	+22	2333
	Hyannis_AP	91	57	73	+2	0.00	0	7.47	-5.07	32	1287	+155	2334
	Maynard	94	53	73	+1	0.20	3	11.37	-3.22	44	1510	+200	2554
	New_Bedford	94	55	74	-2	0.02	2	8.61	-6.32	34	1424	-1	2493
	Newburyport	91	58	71	-2	0.65	1	14.23	-0.46	37	1311	+5	2324
	North_Adams_Har	87	49	70	+3	0.82	4	12.79	-4.58	48	1363	+394	2383
	Norwood	92	51	71	-2	0.00	0	7.98	-5.99	31	1454	+83	2509
	Pittsfield	84	49	69	-1	0.43	3	17.50	+1.01	50	1275	+172	2285
	Plymouth	94	56	73	0	0.06	1	9.22	-5.58	37	1384	+77	2419
	Taunton_4NW	95	58	75	+2	0.03	1	12.20	-2.00	39	1542	+218	2598
	Westfield_Barne	92	52	73	+5	0.06	1	14.99	-0.49	39	1637	+530	2704
	West_Otis	89	53	71	+3	0.52	4	14.31	-3.62	51	1388	+345	2423
	Worcester	88	57	72	+2	0.35	2	12.45	-3.38	43	1491	+311	2538
	Worthington	89	48	68	0	0.25	4	15.63	-1.05	54	1145	+131	2117
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	89	60	74	+3	0.08	1	7.94	-5.47	34	1325	+137	2373
	Providence	93	60	76	+2	0.03	1	13.32	-0.50	37	1639	+196	2720
	Westerly-Wester	90	57	74	+2	0.22	1	8.77	-5.64	33	1345	+61	2389
	Woonsocket	92	56	73	0	0.14	2	12.37	-2.52	35	1533	+185	2594
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	93	63	78	+4	0.00	0	9.81	-4.95	39	1726	+244	2814
	Danbury_AP	91	54	73	0	0.17	1	14.05	-3.06	37	1544	+117	2608
	Hartford_Bradle	92	54	74	0	0.05	3	13.35	-1.82	43	1771	+239	2847
	Meriden-Meriden	94	54	75	+2	0.01	1	7.65	-9.70	29	1661	+305	2725
	Norfolk	87	51	69	0	0.19	3	16.36	-1.57	48	1216	+173	2197
	Norwich	92	59	75	+2	0.14	3	10.43	-4.96	33	1594	+143	2665
	Staffordville	88	53	70	-1	0.06	2	14.58	-1.42	34	1217	+18	2211
	Thomaston_Dam	90	52	72	+2	0.19	2	12.91	-3.58	47	1510	+285	2554
	West_Thompson_L	88	52	71	-1	0.08	2	13.29	-2.85	37	1333	+126	2366
	Willimantic	91	55	74	+4	0.29	2	11.84	-4.16	36	1625	+426	2690

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.  
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.  
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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Field corn is tasselling. Scouting for insects and disease. Some late planted corn is tasselling with extremely short stalks (4 feet).

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Northern), Donald M. Audibert

Rain and above normal cold weather for this time of year. Producers couldn't hay all week due to excessive rain. They're also trying to spray between showers when they can. Hoping for better conditions to work on the farm next week.

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Showers most every day has stopped all dry hay production. Grain and potatoes look excellent so far. Broccoli harvest is moving along steady with good yields and quality.

AROOSTOOK (Southern), Doreen Conlogue

Where did summer go? Last week was so dreary - cold and rainy almost every day. The forecast for this week looks promising! Crops are looking great despite the wet weather and cool temperatures.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Light rain and foggy conditions over the weekend did little to help with dry soil conditions. Sweet corn is finally hitting the grocery stores. Summer squash is coming on strong. Farmers are battling weeds and scouting for insects.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

There has been a good mix of sun and rain. The heat predicted for this week is good news for the corn and vine crops.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

Weather conditions over the week saw rain shower activity for a few evenings with humidity during the day at the beginning of the week. Slow, drizzly rain over the weekend brought cooler temperatures. Highbush blueberry producers are noticing winter kill on plants, resulting in less production overall. There were lots of buds set last fall, but a lot of the buds did not make it through the winter. There are plenty of berries, but not as many as in previous years. Strawberry producers in some areas are reporting a bumper crop.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Harvesting of crops continues in full swing. First reports of apples and potatoes being harvested. Overall yields and quality is very good on most crops. Yields on 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting of hay are favorable.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Field tomatoes are being harvested. Sweet corn harvest is well under way. Farmers report squash are not producing ideal size and shape as they struggle with these weather conditions. Leaf lettuce has given way to head lettuce. Blueberries and raspberries are ripe and sweet, and early peaches are starting to be harvested. Brief Sunday storm produced hail in some towns and high winds with some trees down, but crops did not seem to be affected.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

A very dry week with only very scattered showers; cranberry growers have been irrigating. Some cranberry fruitworm infestations are being seen, but in general the crop continues to look good.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Strafford County experienced quarter-sized hail Sunday, July 19.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Tomato harvest beginning from unheated tunnels. Lots of abundance: squash and zucchini, greens, peas and beans. Blueberries and raspberries being harvested. Growers are trying to keep on top of weeds.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm and muggy early in the week, drier and cooler in the middle, and starting to get muggy again by Sunday. Field corn is starting to tassel in many locations and all of it is growing well. Second cutting haylage about done, with some hay still being harvested here and there - regrowth is pretty strong. Wide range of veggies showing up in stands and markets. Pick-your-own (PYO) raspberries and blueberries are still going strong.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Wet yet. Some heavy rainfall and winds; fields pretty wet in some places and rivers running well. Field corn should look a lot better for this time of the year. Losses in low-lying fields. Should see some corn growth response from side-dress nitrogen, if we can get a little sunnier weather. Manure spreading on second cut haylage fields. Fall planted Triticale trials now about hard-dough stage.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

While most days were dry and sunny this past week, afternoon storms interfered with some farm activities.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Vegetables: Very good demand for produce at most local farmers' markets and farm stands. Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, and spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. Growers were harvesting an array of vegetables, including: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash and first sweet corn. Fruit: Peach, blueberry and raspberry harvests continued. Strawberry cultivating and weeding newly renovated

beds. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, spraying if needed, and mowing orchard floors. Some growers are confusing identifying larva of blueberry fruit fly and Spotted Wing Drosophila. Field Crops: Farmers making baled hay between showers; still tricky drying conditions for dry hay. Silage corn is rapidly growing. Second hay crop is looking good.

#### **ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

Farm stands and farmers' markets were very busy and demand for produce is steady. Sweet corn and an array of field and greenhouse vegetables, herbs, and cut flowers were harvested along with raspberries, blueberries. Harvesting early peaches and very early apple varieties, such as the Lodi and Geneva early varieties. The Macintosh apple variety is ripening. Deer shifted their diet from lettuce and are now feeding on carrots. Some blueberry fields showing results of this past winter as crop yield is lower in some areas with dead branches. Pruning didn't fit the growers' schedules due to the amount of snow in fields late in the season and wet fields. Irrigating, weeding, and applying fertilizers in vegetable fields. Mowing orchard floors as well as small fruits. Planting crops for winter markets. Haying. Pastures and most crops need rain. Some localized rain and thundershowers occurred on Friday. Expecting a heat wave the week of July 26.

#### **RHODE ISLAND**

##### **ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule**

Some parts of the state got very heavy rains last night. There's more to come today and tomorrow. In some parts of the state, the potato farmers started irrigating the winter potato crops last week. Sweet corn is being picked and the crops look good. Should have it now for the rest of the season. We're picking an assortment of vegetables. Pastures look good in most parts of the state because we've had a sufficient amount of rain. There's still a bit of first cut haying to be done, but haven't had three good days together. People are cutting the second cutting now. It looks really good because of the sufficient amount of rain that brought it along quickly.

##### **ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert**

It hailed July 24<sup>th</sup>; I don't know how extensive. Dime-sized hail covered the ground in some parts of Washington County.

#### **VERMONT**

##### **FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Continued showers have made hay harvest difficult in Franklin County this week. Showers are not significant for rainfall, just enough to make any drying difficult. Corn is progressing well with much tasseling. Still a lot of bare spots; however, they are disappearing with the good growth of what is still there. Sweet corn is appearing more and more at the road sides with reports of a fair crop. Some new potatoes were being harvested in the gardens and the crop looks great. Apples are abundant and earlier varieties are eatable with a little tartness.

##### **ORLEANS, David Blodgett**

Scattered showers with some sun seems to be the theme this year for weather forecasts in this area. Some of the showers have been fairly heavy with high winds. Despite this there was some dry weather during the week. It was a challenge to harvest any hay between the showers. Farmers have been applying side-dress nitrogen to the corn land this past week. This has improved the color of the corn to a dark green and growth is starting to really take off. Stalk height ranges from 2 to 4 feet. Hopefully there will be a lot of sun and warm temperatures through August and September to boost the yield. The hay crop yield is at least average but the quality is below average. Pastures are doing better but there is still a lot of mud between the pasture and the barn.